GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4815
ANSWERED ON:15.12.2016
Road Infrastructure in Hilly Areas
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Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any detailed project has been formulated by the Government to improve road infrastructure in hilly States situated near the bordering areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures being taken by the Government to facilitate the Mansarovar Yatra by road?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI PON. RADHAKRISHNAN)

(a) and (b) The Ministry is primarily responsible for development and maintenance of National Highways (NHs). The development and maintenance of NHs is a continuous process. The works on NHs, including the NHs in hilly States, are accordingly taken up as per available resources, inter-se priority and traffic density to keep the NHs in traffic worthy conditions.

The Ministry has taken up detailed review of NHs network with a view to develop the road connectivity to Border areas including those in hilly States, development of Coastal roads including road connectivity for Non Major ports, improvement in the efficiency of National Corridors, development of Economic Corridors, along with integration with Sagarmala, construction / rehabilitation / widening of major bridges and Railway Over Bridges (ROBs) / Railway Under Bridges (RUBs) on NHs, connectivity Improvement Program for Char-Dham (Kedarnath, Badrinath, Yamunothri & Gangothri in Uttarakhand) etc., under proposed new programmes. However, these programmes are yet to be formally launched.

The National Highways and Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited (NHIDCL) was set up in July, 2014 inter-alia to develop NHs /strategic road including those in hilly States, etc., connecting international boundaries.

(c) Road connectivity upto Askot is available through NH-9 from Sitarganj via Tanakpur and Pithoragarh. This section of NH is being maintained in traffic worthy condition based on inter-se priority and availability of funds. The proposed Bharatmala Programme of the Ministry includes development of the road connecting Askot with Lipu lekh Pass via Dharchula-Tawaghat-Sirkha-Malpa-Garbyang for facilitating Kailash Mansarovar Yatra; initiatives has been taken up for preparation of Detailed Project Reports (DPR) for the stretch. However proposed Bharatmala Programme is yet to be formally launched.

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